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Kidnapped soldier Eldad Regev's father will be in Ottawa on November 20 for meetings with gov-



Kidnapped Israeli soldier Ehud Goldwasser's father and father-in-law with speak at the Soloway Jewish Community Centre

Families of missing Israeli soldiers to visit Ottawa

By Michael Regenstreif

One of Israel's most difficult episodes in recent years was the Second Lebanon War, a 34-day conflict that began on July 12, 2006 when the Hezbollah militia launched rockets at Israeli military positions and a raiding squad entered Israel from Southern Lebanon and attacked seven Israeli soldiers riding in two armoured

Three of the soldiers were killed n the raid and two were wounded. The other two, Ehud (Udi) Goldwasser, 32, and Eldad Regev, 27, were kidnapped and brought to Lebanon. They have not been heard from since and their families face each day not knowing whether their

are alive, their condition or how they've been treated.

At the time of their abduction, both Goldwasser and Regev were army reservists who had heen called up for 28-day tours of duty. Goldwasser, from Nahariya, was married and was a graduate student at Technion. Regev, from Kiryat Motzkin, was a law student at Bar Ilan Uni-

engaged in a conflict with Hamas in Gaza that began when Palestinian terrorists entered !srael, kidnapped israeli soldier, Gilad Schaiit, 21, and took him to Gaza on June 25,

Family members of the three

loved ones are still alive or, if they kidnapped soldiers have worked determinedly ever since to raise awareness of the soldiers' plights and to fuel international support for their safe return. Several of the family members, including Shlomo Goldwasser and Omri Avni Fhud's father and father-in-law and Zvi Regev, Eldad's father, will be in Ottawa on November 20 for meetings with Canadian political leaders on Parliament Hill during the day At the same time, Israel was also and, in the evening, with the Jewish community at the Soloway Jewish Community Centre.

> Avni spoke to the Bulletin by telephone from Israel on November 7 about the kidnapped soldiers and the families' upcoming visit here.

(Continued on page 2)

Beth Shalom West changes its name

Beth Sbalom West is about to get a new name. The synagogue, located in Craig Henry, will become known as Beit Tikvah and will no longer be affiliated with Beth Shalom.

When Beth Shalom became a traditional shul with mixed seating. Beth Shalom West was approached about changing its name in order to avoid confusion and give each shul its own unique identity. Beth Shalom West is a Modern Orthodox synagogue.

Under the new agreement, Beth Shalom West will now own the land the synagogue sits upon.

"We are all very excited about the news. It is like we are growing up and becoming adults. It is nice to have ownership of the land" says

Esther Kulik, a member of the executive board of Beth Shalom West.

The synagogue began as a satellite shul of Beth Shalom and began holding services in 1980 under the leadership of Rabbi Basil Herring. It began construction of its permanent home in April 1985, thanks to Irving and the late Jack Aaron, who donated the land, and members of the Ottawa Jewish community, who raised the \$674,000 for the building. The synagogue, on Chartwell Avenue, includes a sanctuary, social hall, kitchen facilities, office and multi-purpose rooms

Kulik credits Beth Shalom both for its financial assistance and its moral and spiritual support in helping make Beth Shalom West a

(Continued on page 2.)



Beth Shalom West will become Congregation Beit Tikvah. An event to celebrate its name change takes place Sunday, December 2.

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Push for Annapolis summit triggers a slew of Jewish lobbying efforts

By Ron Kampeas

WASHINGTON (JTA) buildup to the U.S.-backed Israeli-Palestinian summit to be convened in Annapolis, Md., has set off a flurry of lobbying efforts throughout the Jewish community.

A newly formed coalition of Orthodox and right-wing organizations dedicated to preserving Israeli sovereignty over all of Jcrusalem held meetings with White House officials and members of both houses of Congress.

The Zionist Organization of America, one of the groups in the Coordinating Council on Jerusalem coalition, is spearheading support for a non-binding congressional resolution that calls on Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas to renounce the charter of his Fatah party approved more than 40 years ago.

On the other end of the political spectrum, a triumvirate of dovish pro-Israel groups - Americans for Peace Now, Brit Tzedek v'Shalom and the Israel Policy Forum -- is strongly backing the Annapolis meeting

They see the summit, which is expected to be held under the aegis of U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, as an opportunity to kick-start the long-dormant peace

The three organizations have lobbied hard for a letter to Rice initiated by U.S. Reps. Gary Ackerman (D-N Y) who is lewish and Charles Boustany (R-La.), an Arab

American, that calls for increased assistance to the Palestinian Authority as a means of facilitating

The Ackerman-Boustany letter, which has gamered 87 signatures in the U.S. House of Representatives, is backed by the American Israel Public Affairs Committee.

AIPAC's emphasis, however, is on another letter sent to Rice by U.S. Senators Charles Schumer (D-N.Y.) and Lindsey Graham (R-S.C.) asking her to ensure the active participation of Arab nations at

The letter stated that "in the past, the lack of sufficient support from some of these Arab states have made it difficult to reach earlier agreements."

Seventy-nine senators signed

A1PAC's reasoning is that Abbas, weakened by the ouster of his loyalists from the Gaza Strip in June at the hands of Hamas, needs Arab political and financial backing now if he is to remain credible.

Some observers say the variety of approaches is the product of uncertainty over the narticipants. parameters and objectives of the conference.

'There's no issue vet, there's no proposal just yet," said Malcolm Hoenlein, the executive vice-chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations.

His worry is that the vacuum

could create unreasonable expectations among the Palestinians, and that disappointment could lead to violence.

Regarding the Palestinians, Hoenlein said. "The skepticism is, what are they capable of" in terms of making peace. Instead of negotiating endgame solutions at Annapolis, he said, the sides should focus on building up the Palestinian infrastructure and economy as a means of enabling Abbas and encouraging moderation.

Despite the many question marks regarding the Annapolis summit, it seems likely that the Israelis and Palestinians will tackle major issues including Jerusalem.

Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert finally stepped out from behind proxies and declared that final-status issues would be

"Annapolis will be the jumpingoff point for continued serious and in-depth negotiations which will not avoid any issue or ignore any division which has clouded our relations with the Palestinian people for many years," he said at the annual Saban Forum in Jerusalem. Rice was in attendance.

If talk of dividing or sharing Jerusalem does come up, it appears that Olmert should expect strong protests, at least from some corners of the American Jewish

The left has never had a problem advocating against Israel's policies, and religious organizations have been more deferential to the government of Israel," said Jeff Ballabon, a founder of the newly formed Jerusalem coalition told

Ballabon, who is active in Republican politics, joined fellow members of the coalition in the lobbying efforts in Washington. He hopes to meet with Rice.

The watershed, Ballabon said,

peacemaking that many in the Orthodox and right-wing pro-Israel communities see as catastrophic.

In addition to religious and ideological objections, he said, members of the coalition feel vindicated and inspired to speak out by the fallout from Israel's withdrawal from the Gaza Strip, which has since fallen into the hands of Hamas and continues to serve as a base for rocket attacks on southern

The Jerusalem coalition features everal organizations, including the Orthodox Union, that until now have been reluctant to tell Israelis how to handle security-related issues.

Nathan Diament, the director of the O.U.'s Washington office, described his group's participation in the coalition as a natural evolution from other recent organizational decisions.

(Continued on page 9)

BSW grateful for Beth Shalom support

(Continued from page 1)

"We are all very grateful for the support they have shown us," says

"We are indebted to the congregation downtown [Beth Shalom] and appreciate the contributions have made over the years," adds Beth Shalom West spiritual leader Rabbi Howard Finkelstein.

The name Beit Tikvah was chosen after congregation members were surveyed, and then voted on, all walks of life." possible name changes.

For Rabbi Finkelstein, the new name means the synagogue will be able to strengthen its identity and independence.

"I am very pleased about the name change and the new structure," he says. "We plan to continue to be welcoming to all Jews and to continue creating and developing programs that reach out to people in

Rabbi Finkelstein and the entire congregation are inviting the community to help celebrate the new Congregation Beit Tikvah on Sunday, December 2 from 2:00 to 4:00 pm.

Tickets are \$10. For more information, cail the shul office at 613-723-1800. The Chanukah HaBayit (house warming) event will feature music by Issac Muzikansky and a

support we receive' Take strength from the global

(Continued from page 1)

The families mark every passing

"It's 483 days for my son-in-law, Ehud Goldwasser, and Eldad Regev, and today is exactly 500 days for Gilad Schalit in Gaza," he said.

While Goldwasser and Regev have not been heard from at all since their abduction, an audio tape of Schalit did surface about six months ago.

"It was his voice," said Avni, "so that means he was alive on the date it was recorded. We don't know when it was recorded and we haven't heard anything of him since then. No one has visited Gilad Schalit'

Despite the fact that Hezbollah operates in Lebanon, and, in fact, holds seats in the Lebancse parliament, the country's government has taken a hands-off approach.

"They say that even if they wanted to do something, they can't do

anything," Avni said.

Avni also explained that the Israeli government, as a matter of policy, will not talk directly with Hezbollah.

"But, actually, there is contact. There is a U.N. envoy who has taken it upon himself to bring about negotiations between Hezbollah and the Israeli government. It was hard at the beginning, but he has established a line of talk between himself and Hezbollah and himself and the Israeli government. But, so far, there have been no results."

The situation of not knowing whether the kidnapped soldiers are still alive, or where they are, has been extremely difficult on the families, said Avni

You don't know if your son, or husband, or son-in-law is alive or not; if he's being fed, or not. You can't return to the routine of a regu-

The families, though, have taken

great comfort in the support they've received, from fellow Israelis and from people around the world via rallies and other kinds of events.

"We try to encourage them, and take encouragement from them," said Avm. "That has become our routine. We wake up in the morning and say 'what can we do to bring our sons back home?'

In Ottawa, Avni said, the families will report on the situation of their loved ones to Canada's political leaders and to the community and will ask for their support in helping to bring them home.

"We need the support of the community and of the political groups. We take strength from the global support we receive."

The entire community is invited to meet with the families of the kidnapped soldiers and demonstrate their solidarity with them as they seek the safe return of their loved

The community event takes place Tuesday, November 20, 7:30 pm, in the SJCC social hall at 21 Nadolny Sacbs Private.

Rabin students ask government to help free Israeli soldiers

Earlier this year, students and teachers at Yitzhak Rabin High School wrote letters to the Canadian government in support of the kidnapped Israeli soldiers and recently received a letter of thanks for their efforts from Miki Goldwasser, the mother of Ehud Goldwasser, on behalf of the

er-Avni families.

"We read, with much excitement, about your actions which bore the fruit of a response from the Canadian government," wrote Goldwasser (in Hebrew) in her letter.

"We are happy that you are vigilant and active.

Schalit, Regev and Goldwass- action, every reminder of this cruel kidnapping on the consciousness of governments and communities helps us," wrote the kidnapped soldier's

> "We hope that you continue to be active in the cause of your kidnapped brothers until the day they return bome."

Ehud Goldwasser 31 abducted on July 12, 2006

Eldad Regev 26 abducted on July 12, 2006

Gilad shalit 20 abducted on June 25, 200

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'Short walk from bullying to hate crimes to genocide'

By Michael Regenstreif

"Never again is an empty slogan because it happens again and again," says acclaimed author and cducator Barbara Coloroso.

While best known for her books and lectures on parenting and education, Coloroso's latest book is Extraordinary Evil: A Brief History of Genocide and Why It Matters. She was in Ottawa to deliver the keynote address of Holocaust Education Week 2007 and attracted a large audience of more than 500 to Sir Robert Borden High School for her lecture.

In Extraordinary Evil, Coloroso examines three 20th century genocides: the Armenian Genocide during the First World War; the Holocaust of the Jews, Roma and Sinti during the Second World War; and the Tutsi Genocide in Rwanda in

According to Coloroso, "it's a short walk from bullying to hate crimes to genocide," and she explained her theory that bullying, hate

crimes and genocide are all rooted in the dehumanization of other people and that putting an end to such evils is dependent on raising generations of children who care deeply for other human beings. It's not an accident, she says, that the masterminds of all three 20th century genocides had youth

In raising children, Coloroso said there are three types of obedience they can be taught.

The first type of obedience is "rule based," in which children learn to obey rules out of fear of punishment. Rule-based obedience creates a citizenry that is unquestioning of authority; one of three conditions that Coloroso says must be present for genocide to occur. These are the kind of people who blindly follow orders and are needed to execute

"Hannah Arendt talked about the banality of evil. But it's not the banality of evil. It's the banality of the people



Barbara Coloroso in a role-playing exercise with two students at Nepean High School. (OJB photo: Michael Regenstreif)

committing the evil," says to stand up and do what's Coloroso.

The second type of obedience is "role based," a system based on bribes and threats. Children are taught that obeying rules brings rewards, and that not obeying brings deprivation of rewards.

The consequences of rolebased obedience, says Coloroso, is that children ultimately develop a "what's in it for me?" approach to life and will not have the motivation right. Such people become bystanders who do not interfere in the face of cruelty. Coloroso pointed out that 25 of Rena Virk's fellow students stood by and watched as other students broke the arms and then drowned the

14-year-old in Victoria, B.C. in 1997

The third type of obedience Coloroso cites is "value based." People raised in value-based environments learn to care deeply about other human beings because of the values they've been taught and understand when they need to act. "

Sometimes deep caring trumps laws and rules," says Coloroso, "We need to raise our kids to care deeply.

"There are three things to teach children for them to care deeply: to share generously, to help willingly and to

think," adds Coloroso. In addition to unquestioning obedience to authority, the other two conditions Coloroso says are necessary for genocide to occur are the debumanization of other human beings and the routinization of cruelty.

"Genocide doesn't just happen," sbe says. "We all need to pay attention, get involved and never look

Directly addressing Holocaust survivors in the audience. Coloroso encouraged them to write their stories so that future generations may continue to learn from them

Following the lecture Coloroso signed copies of Extraordinary Evil, taking time to talk with all who wanted to meet her.

Earlier in the day, Col-

1.300 students bused from various local schools to two assemblies at Nepean High School

Coloroso concentrated on issues of bullying in her presentation to the students, but also explained to them the direct links she draws from bullying to hate crimes and genocide.

Coloroso used role-playing with the students to suggest ways they could respond to specific situations in their own lives.

She also cited specific examples, including the Rena Virk murder, to show the terrible consequences of bully-

Others she mentioned included Dawn-Marie Wesley, a 14-year-old in Mission, B.C., who committed suicide in 2000 after suffering extensive verbal abuse at the hands of bullies, and Charles "Andy" Williams, a bullied teenager in California who retaliated with a gun killing two of his fellow students and wounding 13 others in a shooting spree. Williams was sentenced to a minimum of 50 years to life in prison.

Coloroso told her student audience that she doesn't expect them to like everyone else but that no one should ever be put outside their circles of humanity and moral

"Stand up for values and against injustices," she said.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Coordinator - Jewish Information Service of Ottawa (JISO)

The Jewish Information Service of Ottawa is a new service being offered by the Jewish Federation of Ottawa. JISO will be a central service office mandated to facilitate the dissemination of information about services and programs offered in the Ottawa Jewish Community.

Coordinator Position Description:

To develop, expand and supervise the services offered by JISO including the volunteers. To build partnerships with other Federation departments and outside agencies within the context of enhancing Jewish information services to the community. The Coordinator of JISO Reports to the Director of Communications and liaises with the Communication and Community Rela-

Duties and Responsibilities:

- Establish the Jewish Information Services of Ottawa offices and program
- Recruit, supervise and train volunteers
- Act as resource to volunteers to answer complex/controversial questions from the public. Analyze community needs and work with volunteers and Federation staff
- to produce program resources to meet needs.
- Collect information from Jewish agencies.
- Ensure that the information on the community websites is accurate and current.
- Promote the use of Planit Jewish as a central means of engaging and informing community members of Jewish activates in the region.
- Track and monitor the frequency of use of the services, timeliness of response (24 hours) and satisfaction of the community with the service offerings.

Summary of Skills/Education/Experience:

Skills: Ability to prioritize and manage multiple projects; strong interpersonal and organizational skills; ability to supervise volunteers; team player; ability to speak Hebrew (an asset); research skills; customer service skills; computer skills; strong communication skills; ability to analyze and problem-solve.

Education: Completion of post-secondary degree.

Experience: Minimum 2-5 years working in a related field; project management; supervisory and training experience; knowledge of Jewish community; working with volunteers.

How To Apply:

Please forward a cover letter and résumé including salary expectations to Dawn Paterson, Office Manager/Executive Assistant, by fax 613-798-4695 or by c-mail to careers@jccottawa.com . Deadline: Thursday, November 30, 2007



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3. Roundtrip Airfare for Two to anywhere in Canada/US	Southern \$5	
Restrictions apply & taxes are extra value \$600	25. Spring Cleanup value \$300	
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'Honour thy Father and Mother' motivates Hillel Lodge

Editor's note: JFO Chair Jonathan Freedman has arranged to share his colunin, on occasion, with the chairs or presidents of the community's major beneficiary agencies or committees so they can provide some insight into their operations.

As president of the Bess and Moe Greenberg Family Hillel Lodge, I take pride in describing the wonderful home our community built.

Our purpose is not just to provide care within a Jewish environment, but to belo residents achieve and/or maintain the highest possible quality of life.

Under current legislation, the home is accountable to the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) for all aspects of its operation including admissions, administration and funding. The province establishes uniform charge rates for all residents living in a long-term care facility. The Lodge must operate as a facility within an established system.

Our challenge is to create a home-like environment for each of our 100 residents as we abide by the guidelines and funding envelopes established by the MOHLTC. Our requirement to operate our admission procedures, nursing, medical, dietary,



Federation Keport

> Ingrid Levitz President Hillel Lodge

recreation and social work services, as well as laundry, housekeeping and facility maintenance, necessitate a business approach to ensure we meet the highest standards of accreditation.

At the same time, the Lodge offers its programs and services with a distinct Jewish flavour and within a setting that celebrates our culture's traditions. We are, therefore, a home, a facility and a business.

The relationship between the resident and the Lodge can begin months before the prospective resident enters the home. If the need for a long-term care facility is viewed as likely, the family and potential resident are able to visit the Lodge and apply for admission. By law, all admissions to the Lodge must go through a government system of placement, known as the Community Care Access Centre (CCAC), and be

deemed as eligible by the CCAC placement co-ordinator. The applicant's name is then placed on the CCAC wait list for admission to a long-term care facility.

There are cases, however, where admission to the Lodge comes through a crisis for a senior in his or her own home or as a crisis admission from hospital. The latter has become more common as acute-care beds in Ottawa hospitals are required and hospitalized seniors who are deemed not safe to return to their own home are considered a priority and may be admitted ahead of those on the wait list. These hospital-based admissions are also under the auspices of the CCAC

Although the Lodge operates far above the minimum standard requirements, its challenges include limited resources and the fact that it cannot replace the individual's living arrangements prior to admission. Nevertheless, we do our utmost to make the Lodge feel like home. Much effort is made in getting to know the resident, to respond to each resident's individual needs and to reduce the many frustrations experienced by our seniors as they move into a new setting.

We are, however, a facility in a system

with particular needs and limited funds. We require the co-operation of our families and residents in getting to know each person and his or her individual preferences. This requires the combined efforts of families, friends and residents. For this to be achieved, relationship-building is key.

In order to create a feeling of home and a true co-operative partnership with regard to care, relationships must be formed. Relationship-building in the Lodge is as important as the quality of food served or the programs offered.

The Bess and Moe Greenberg Family Hillel Lodge is proud of its high standard of care. The cost to maintain all this is \$160 per resident per day, not all of which is covered by government, community and resident funds. We, therefore, express our gratitude to all our supporters and donors and to the Ottawa Jewish Community Foundation and the Jewish Federation of Ottawa annual campaign whose annual allocations/contributions assist us in providing care and services seven days a week, 24 hours a day.

Our community's dedication and commitment to 'Honour Thy Father and Thy Mother' inspires all of us involved at the Lodge to make this place truly a home.

Cancer study: good news or bad news?

Recently, a study out of the University of Pennsylvania asserting that a positive attitude will not prolong a cancer patient's life became a major news story.

Coincidentally, a few days later, I spoke at a panel discussion sponsored by Breast Cancer Action, on the topic of faith, spirituality and healing.

I began by saying that I was of two minds, but generally happy about this find-

Why?

The weighted emphasis on positive attitude helping to fight cancer has a definite negative side. The moment you suggest, exhort or cajole those with cancer to fight, and if they are positive they can lick this horrible invasion on well being, at that moment, you place the "onus" for recovery on the patient,

Never mind that this is not the intention of the exhorters. More important than what we say is what the patient hears. The patient, ever sensitive, and legitimately so, hears that recovery is in his or her hands and, therefore, the failure to recover is his or her fault. No one means to say that, and the conclusion reached by the patient may not even be logical, but it is clear that many patients reach that conclusion.

This was brought home to me in comments afterwards by some cancer patients, who actually strongly resented being told about how vital it is to have a positive

So, what indeed are we to make of this study? Is it good news or bad news? To



From the nulnit

Reuven P. Bulka Machzikei Hadas

those who have invested heavily in positive attitude, it may seem like bad news. To those who did not, it may seem like good news. In actuality, neither is the whole

The heavy investment in positive attitude is the correct approach, but not for the reason people usually assume. And the failure to embrace a positive attitude is the wrong approach, even if the person who failed to do so actually defeated the cancer and lived long.

To further clarify, in Jewish parlance, we speak about arihat yamim v'shanim, meaning length of days and years. Why mention days when speaking of the longer term, years, which by definition includes days?

Perhaps to convey the two dimensions of life's length - the quantity, in years, and the quality, in terms of making every day

There is no guarantee, even without the Pennsylvania study, that positive approach leads directly to longevity, to more years. We know this from many people who literally embraced the positive, yet succumbed.

But what can be guaranteed is that a

positive attitude will add more days, more quality, to one's life. Anyone who, faced with horrible news, resolves to get deeply engaged in meaningful life, to become involved in doing good things for others, in transcending the self, is sure to bring a unique significance to each day.

This is something that works well for everyone, healthy or less so, but when people are full of energy, they tend to have a more pleasure-oriented focus. The rude awakening that comes from knowing one has cancer often changes the priorities from pleasure to meaning. The brush with mortality awakens people to the need to

fill life with meaning, to grab every moment and live it helpfully.

It is right to champion a positive attitude, but not as a magical potion for quantitative longevity. Instead, it is the potion for qualitative longevity, for making every day come alive.

Once we realize this, we will be more cautious in how we approach a cancer patient with free advice. And, instead of offering this often misunderstood advice, it is best if we do what we can to add quality of life to those who have serious illnesses, such as by being with them and caring for them. That is positive, for everyone.

Canadä



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Cantor Kraus returns to Bergen-Belsen

Every weekday morning, Cantor Moshe Kraus wakes up at the crack of dawn and takes two buses to attend morning services at Young Israel. From time to time, a non-Jewish neighbour who sometimes works in the west end gives him a lift.

Luckily, one fateful day, his neighbour offered him a ride.

The ride may have saved Cantor Kraus's life.

When he complained about chest pains, his friend insisted on taking him to the hospital and not to shul. The doctors later told him that they were amazed he could walk into the emergency room considering he had a 90 per cent blocked artery. He was immediately rushed into heart surgery.

If he had taken the bus, in all likelihood, he wouldn't be alive today.

"The doctors couldn't understand how I made it. He [the neighbour] was a messenger from God to help me," he insists.

It wasn't the first time Cantor Kraus was saved. After the liberation of Bergen-Belsen, he weighed only 36 kilograms and was taken to the hospital. For the first few days, he was given only water with sugar and then was told to eat only porridge for the next week.

"I was crying because they wouldn't give me anything to eat," he remembers.

By not eating he was saved the ironic and terrible death of thousands of liberated Jewish prisoners who suddenly found



themselves with food. It was simply too much for their systems.

"I came out of the hospital and saw dead people in the street," he sadly notes. For the next month, the cantor, along

with three rabbis, helped bury thousands in mass graves.

"People who after three or four years made it to liberation died because there was no one to tell them not to eat such heavy foods. It is such a tragedy and nobody knows about it," he says.

At the Bergen-Belsen Concentration Camp he was put in the Holland Barrack. He noticed two or three people would walk around singing Yiddish songs like My Yiddishe Mama that brought tears to the inmates as they remembered better times. Kraus decided he would do something different.

"I told people that I was the chief cantor of Budapest and I began to go around and sing happy songs," he says. "They used to sing with me. I could see a smile. I could see a little light in their eyes. This was my pay and I was happy when I saw this."

At the camp, he became known as "Moshe the singer," also the name of a video that tells his story and is featured at the Bergen-Belsen museum.

Even today, when he meets his former fellow concentration camp prisoners at a Bergen-Belsen reunion, or anywhere else, they remind him what his singing meant to them.

"They remember. They are showing appreciation. They tell me 'the little smile, the good feelings in this hell was when Moshe the singer use to come and sing us a song." he says.

So it is understandable that, despite having heart surgery a mere two and a half months ago, and against the wishes of his doctors, Kraus decided to accept the German government's invitation to attend the opening of the Bergen-Belsen muse-um.

It was an opportunity to say prayers for those buried there, participate in the ceremony, bear witness to the opening of the museum and visit friends.

"We saw each other. We remembered stories. We cried together. We kissed together. It was not easy," he says. "I had to come to the opening of the museum because I was involved there. Bergen-Belsen is very, very touchy for me. I needed to go."

The cantor is impressed with the new museum.

"I have been to many countries like

Hungary, Poland, Russia and Slovakia and I have never seen anything like it. The museum looks to bring out the truth and show it so it will never happen again," he says.

At the opening ceremony, German Minister of State for Culture Bernd Neumann thanked the former inmates for coming and stressed the importance of having memorials sites and museums such as the one at Bergen-Belsen.

"The massacre of the European Jews was a crime against humanity of unprecedented proportions. It must be given supreme place in German remembrance, now and for all time," the minister said.

By attending this event, he told the survivors, "You keep the memory alive to remind us that we should never forget."

Cantor Kraus was moved to see many non-Jews and especially many younger Germans attend the opening ceremony.

"I watched them in the museum with my wife Ritka. As they watched the videos, and read the stories of the inmates, they were using tissues to wipe their eyes," he says. "It was unbelievable."

He says he was very moved and heard stories that he wasn't aware of as he toured the museum.

"I appeal to people to go to Bergen-Belsen, to see the museum and learn something, and also to give honour to the very dear people who are buried there," he

Voyage to Vilkaviskis, Lithuania - part 3

(This is the third and concluding column detailing a 1995 trip to Vilkaviskis, Lithuania, hometown of my wife's father.)

By the end of the Second World War, my father-in-law Jack was the only surviving member of his family.

Before the war, his father had the foresight to pack him off to London to study and to live with an uncle. When that uncle died, the British government tried to deport Jack back to Lithuania, A sympathetic bureaucrat found a loophole that allowed him to stay in England — effectively saving his life.

Jack slept on park benches and earned a law degree. He never saw anyone from his family again.

During the war, he served in the British navy. He understood German, so he was assigned to intercept enemy radio communiques. Luckily for him, his English was shaky. When he was sent ashore for a weekend course, his boat was attacked and his replacement was shot through the forehead as he sat at Jack's usual station.

That story was the most interesting thing that my father-in-law ever told me about his early life. It popped out one day unprompted, at an unguarded moment. When I pressed him for details, he



Alan Echenberg

clammed up.

Jack was not a survivor of the Holocaust, but had developed a survivor's mentality: A man who seemingly could not – or would not – take comfort in anything.

From our first meeting, all attempts to talk about his past were met with uncomfortable silences or awkward conversational lunges into more innocuous topics. Mention the war at the dinner table and Jack might ask if you wanted more soup. Ask a question about his childhood and he would talk about the day's trading on the stock market.

Of course, since he was diagnosed with the dementia that – by the time of this journey – has been progressively, cruelly eating away at his memory and other inental capacities, the uncomfortable silences have become more frequent.

Here in Vilkaviskis, my wife and I have

seen almost everything that Chayim, our tour guide, planned to show us. Before heading back to Kaunas, we stop at a train station on the outskirts of town. Chayim tells us the station is the only place in Vilkaviskis that survived the war intact. If Jack was with us, it would be the only thing he could possibly recognize of his hometown. It's probably the last thing he ever saw here. We get out and take a look.

As we climb back into the car and head east, the late afternoon sun peeks through the clouds behind us, the day's gloom finally lifting at our exact moment of departure

In Kaunas, Chayim surprises us with an unscheduled stop. He takes us through an unlit neighbourhood to a dingy apartment building. Here, he has arranged for us to visit with two old women – one of them sick in bed. They both grew up in Vilkaviskis, Chayim tells us. He thinks they may remember my father-in-law's family.

They say they do remember. But as Chayim translates for us, they begin to argue with each other over details. Yes, they remember the family. No, they don't remember a boy in the family. The family owned a soap factory. No, that wasn't them. We tell them about the inscription

we found on the gravestone. That was a different family with the same name, one of them thinks.

It's a little frustrating, sitting here in this drab room trying to piece together the past with these women and their fogbound memories. Sitting here, half the earth away from home, in this country with a selective memory of its own past. Sitting here at the end of a trip that underscored the fragility of memory itself.

When she hears we're from Canada, one of the women jumps up. She says she knows a Jewish man from Vilkaviskis who lives in Canada. It's a big country, I say. She pulls out a ragged-looking book and shows us the man's name and address.

No, it's not Jack, but the address is in Montreal – not five minutes away from where my wife grew up.

We say goodbye, head down the stairs, and back out into the darkness.

(Postscript: We never told my father-inlaw about our visit to his hometown. Three strangers showed up to his funeral in the year 2000. They were childhood friends of Jack from Vilkaviskis. One of them was the man in the address book.)

Alan Echenberg is TVOntario's Parliamentary bureau chief.

Controversial Muslim author Manji speaks at Choices event

Irshad Manii, whose outspoken views have brought both international renown a courageous, devout Muslim woman who dares to question the way her faith is being practised, and tremendous criticism, and even death threats, from some Muslims who considor her a traitor to the religion, brought her message to 250 women who gathered recently for the 2007 'Choices" event.

In her opening remarks, Manji acknowledged the potential humour in the faet that she is a Muslim woman speaking to a group of Jewish women of all denominations with, perhaps, even a few atheists in the crowd,

"I just think it's hilarious that as atheists you would come to a synagogue to hear a Muslim speak," she said.

She also spoke of her love of chocolate and pointed out that the M&M's on each table were stamped with the word, "choices," admiring "the level of



Irshad Manji (centre) is flanked by (from left to right) Lenora Zelikovitz, event chair Jennifer Kardash, Laila Wex and Adrienne Shabsove.

(Photo: Peter Waiser)

detail, the level of thought that was invested in to-

Manji, author of The Trouble with Islam Today: A Muslim's Call for Reform in her Faith, was born in Idi Amin's Uganda in 1968 and moved to Vancouver with her family at the age of four. erous and not to be trusted. She was educated in public schools there and also attended an Islamie madressa (school), where she remembers learning two key lessons: women are inferior and cannot lead prayer services, and Jews are treach-

As a child, Manii said she questioned authority and was unwilling to blindly accept what she was being

"What if I am not being educated at the madressa? What if I am being indered. "Education unleashes our eapacity to think critically; indoctrination squelches that ability.

By the age of 14, Manji had been expelled from her Islamic school.

'I took it upon myself over the next 20 years to study Islam on my own at the public library," she said.

Manji said she discovered a deep love of Islam and uncovered much about the religion that she feels has been greatly misinterpreted in modern times.

"We can no longer keep pointing fingers at everybody else out there," she said. "At a certain point, we have to take responsibility for what we are contributing to the crisis in Islam today."

For Manji, writing her book was an effort to bring what she considers the true and beautiful aspects of Islam to light, and to share her knowledge with Muslims - and, in particular, Muslim women - around

the world, all of us have choices. The real question is do we have the courage to exercise those choices and then take responsibility for them?" asked Manji.

"Choices" is an outreach initiative of the Jewish Federation of Ottawa Women's Campaign whose goal is to attract new donors and encourage women to participate and to give money in their own names rather than as part of a family gift.

The event was chaired by Jennifer Kardash who modelled it after a similar program last year in Montreal. She had the idea to try it in Ottawa after its success there.

The other organizing committee members, Laila Wex, Lenora Zelikovitz, Adrienne Shabsove and Randi Shinder, were gratified that their efforts had succeeded in attracting many women to participate.

The event was held at Agudath Israel Congregation on November 2.



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and Family; to Dr. Lorne Weiner; to Mr. and Mrs. Edward Kerzner; and to Mr. and Mrs. Norm Ferkin by Lois and Jerry Nudelman

Wishing a Happy New Year to Murielle and Yosi Behar; to Dorothy Nadolny; and to Elaine and Mel Ball by Elliott and Nina Arron and Michelle

Wishing the Popky Family and Benlolo Family much happiness in their new homes and a Happy New Year by Debbie, Norm and Vicky

Wishing good health and a Happy New Year to Jerry and Lois Nudelman and family; to Barbara Greenberg and Barry Bokhaut; to Murray and Linda Greenberg and Family; and to Joel and Charlotte Greenberg by Deb, Norm and Vicky

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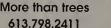
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Judy Tenenbaum ... Come On Down!

Congratulations to Judy Tenenbaum, winner of the 2007 Blue Box Draw. Judy's prize: a year-long membership at the Soloway JCC! Judy's name was chosen from the batch of names submitted along with Blue Boxes filled with a minimum \$36. Yasher Koach, Judy. Enjoy! And JNF's sincere thanks to the many others who handed in their Blue Boxes

Looking Back At Negev Dinner 2007

Although it's all over but the shouting, we have to take just one more opportunity to wax eloquently about this year's highly successful Negev Dinner honouring Ottawa Citizen Publisher Jim Orban. The Congress Centre was beautifully inviting and the beautiful wrought-iron centrepieces - festooned with votive candles - were exquisite and entirely appropriate for the occasion.

Honouree Orban was visibly moved by the tribute paid him that evening. His chosen project, the Residential Village for Autistic Young Adults in Beersheva, will see JNF partner with the Israeli Society for Autistic children. JNF will provide all landscaping and infrastructure work on the complex, where some 48 young adults will learn to function as independently as possible in a highly supervised and supporting environment.

More than 5,000 Israelis have been diagnosed with autism, with about 250 infants newly diagnosed each year. By helping these young Israelis live their lives as normally as possible, JNF demonstrates a reach far beyond forests, reservoirs and desert outposts. Indeed, to declare that the greater community will care for and love these children is a powerful message to the world. Every child has an identity and no child will be left behind.

The 700 in attendance thoroughly enjoyed CNN talk show host Larry King's recollections of his childhood in New York and reminiscences of his early years in broadcasting. A good time was had by all and Israel is the beneficiary. Sincere tbanks to all!

The Lost and Found Department

A couple of pairs of women's eyeglasses were left behind at the Negev Dinner. If you think they belong to you, you are cordially invited to call the JNF office to claim 'em

Sefer Bat/Bat Mitzvah Inscriptions

Einav Gotlieb, daughter of Gina Pearl and Michael Gotlieb by her grandparents Gita and Jerry Pearl; Aaron Micah Robert by his proud parents Renee and Andy Robert; Jordan Alexander Rosenbloom by his proud parents Andrea and Alan Rosenbloom and brother Michael. Mazal tov and Yasher Koach to all!

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On the occasion of her Bat Mitzvah, Catherine Rivers has been inscribed in the Golden Book by her proud Bubbie

On the occasion of ber Bat Mitzvah, Sophie Pearl Rivers has been inscribed in the Golden Book by her proud Bubbie Goldie Rivers.

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Memorial for Yitzhak Rabin held at high school named in his honour

By Maxine Miska

On October 24, the yarhzeit of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, assassinated 12 years ago, was observed in the high school named in his memory by its stu-

As teachers, students, Embassy of Israel staff and members of the community gathered in the Yitzhak Rabin High School (YRHS) auditorium, the photographs that epitomized those years of hope and tragedy - Rabin with King Hussein of Jordan, U.S. President Bill Clinton, PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat flashed by on the screen, and Israel's ambassador to Canada Alan Baker reminisced that he stood "on the other side of the camera" as an adviser to Rabin.

Baker described Rabin as a serious, dedicated man who did not engage in

small talk. The ambassador often saw matriarch Rachel, who, in Jewish tradihim give technical briefings off the top of his head, and impressed the heads of state with his abilities.

"His assassination was not just a blow to Israel and the peace process, but Israelis," Baker remarked.

Jonathan Friedman, chair of the Jewish Federation of Ottawa, praised Rabin as a product of true democracy and of Israel, the only democracy in the Middle East. Referring to efforts to strengthen democracy in Israel and to the world situation in general, Friedman said, "We cannot take democracy for granted and we must fight daily to keep it alive."

Rabbi Howard Finkelstein, Judaic studies director of YRHS, noted that Rabin's vahrzeit is the same date as the tion, cries for her children, and cries for Rabin as well.

"Rabin was a person of peace. We are not yet successful in that effort, but do not despair, and let us hope his vision also a personal loss in the lives of all of peace will be realized for Israel," he said

> The ceremony concluded with a candlelighting by YRHS student Shirley Arguetti and with readings in English and Hebrew by classmates Adam Sadinsky, Rebecca Silver, Simcha Walfish, Atara Messinger, Talor Ben Choreem and Netanel Finkelstein, including the eulogy written by Noa Ben Artzi, Rabin's granddaughter.

Everyone sang Shir La-shalom (A Song for Peace), which had great meaning to Rabin.

Jewish groups disagree on summit

(Continued from page 2)

After the Gaza evacuation, the O.U., which represents hundreds of Orthodox congregations, resolved to speak openly against Israeli government decisions it opposed. Last year, at its biennial convention in Jerusalem, the group resolved to oppose any attempt to divide the city.

Diament said the idea was not to confront the Israeli government down the road - but he would not count out the possibility of an eventual clash.

'We're hoping to change the Israeli government's mind - that would be the best result," he said, noting that his office had just launched a "Defending Jerusalem" Web site.

In addition to fighting on the Jerusalem issue, the ZOA is pusbing hard for the congressional resolution introduced by U.S. Rep. Roy Blunt (R-Mo.), the minority whip in the House of Representatives and U.S. Rep. Shelley Berkley (D-Nev.), a prominent Jewish Democrat - calling for the abrogation of the Fatah charter. Palestinian officials say the charter has long been overridden by subsequent Fatah documents.

But support for ZOA's position is gathering support among Jewish groups, Hoenlein said. His Presidents Conference is the community's main umbrella organization on foreign policy

Hoelein told JTA that he has canvassed member groups and said support for the ZOA position is "overwhelming.

Ori Nir, the spokesman for Americans for Peace Now and director of its campaign backing the Annapolis effort, said groups focusing on minutiae like the Fatah charter are missing the bigger

"Instead of examining documents that are more than 40 years old," Nir said "it's time for American Jews to help the prime minister of Israel's push for peace rather than seek ways to hinder his efforts?



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'Jesus of Hollywood' author to speak at SJCC, November 27

as recounted in the Gospels is relatively fixed, the interpretation of the life of Jesus in film has a fluidity that reflects the attitudes of the filmmaker's society and has implications for the contemporary Jewish communities who are cast as involuntary "extras" in the production.

Every film about Jesus is really a film about Jews. Mel Gibson's 2004 The Passion of the Christ is a case in point.

On Tuesday, November 27 at 7:30 pm, at the SJCC, Professor Adele Reinhartz will discuss how Jesus is portrate her lecture.

Reinhartz is vice-president of research at the University of Ottawa and a professor in the department of classics and religious studies.

Her primary area of expertise is the history and literature of Judaism and Christianity in the Greco-Roman era. Her most recent book, Jesus of Hollywood, published by Oxford University Press, forms the basis for her talk.

In her work, Reinhartz has examined a variety of films about Jesus including: D. W. Griffith's, Intolerance trayed in Hollywood movies (1916), Pier Paolo Pasolini's,



Adele Reinhartz

The Gospel According to St. Matthew (1966), Franco Zeffirelli's Jesus of Nazareth (1977), Monty Python's Life of Brian (1979), Martin tion of Christ (1988), and Denis Arcand's Jesus of Montreal (1989)

Reinhartz explores how these films project the values and preoccupations of the filmmaker's contemporary society onto the life of Jesus. his divinity, his relations with his family and friends, and the struggle for freedom under political oppression.

Tickets, available at the door, are \$5.00 for SJCC members and \$7.00 for nonmembers. For more information, contact Roslyn Wollock at 613-798-9818, ext. 254 or rwollock@iccottawa.com.

SJCC holds auditions for a Purim Shpiel See our wonderful selection of Chanukah Cards, Tags, Gift Wrap, Party Goods, (play), according to the Beach Boys Chocolate Coins, Dreidels, Chanukah Candles and By Roslyn Wollock. Very simply, if you love many other items. from 6:30 to 8:30 pm at the P.S. We also carry Judaic Cards, Bar/Bat Mitzvah, Engagement, Wedding, Mazel Tov and Sympathy

SJCC adult programming 'You'll have 'fun, fun, fun!" when you come out to audition for the roles of Queen Esther, Mordechai and the rest of the gang -Haman, Achashverosh. Vashti, Hagit and Zeresh.

The remaining cast of 20 will act as narrators and be a part of the chorus.

What, you may ask, is required to audition to be a Purim shpieler (player)?

the holiday of Purim, have an affinity for Beach Boy tunes, are between the ages of 18 and 120 and can carry a tune, then this is the gig for

We are also looking for volunteers for the following: choreography, musical direction, set and costume design.

Auditions will take place on Sunday, November 18 from 1:00 to 3:00 pm and Wednesday, November 21

Soloway Jewish Community

Contact director Gavriella Silverstone at gavsilverstone@gmail.com, or Roslyn Wollock, adult programming, at 613-798-9818 ext. 254, rwollock@sjccottawa.com to book a time for your audi-

For those of you who prefer to watch the Shpielers shpiel, the show will take place on Sunday evening,

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Dr. M. Jeffrey Karp Mazal-tov on receiving your doctorate in clinical psychology by Aunt Carol, Harvey and Family R'Fuah Shlema;

Esther Ballon by Dorothy and Maurie Karp and Family

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hunter: time for justice is running out

By Michael Regenstreif Efforts to bring the perpetrators of the Holocaust to justice will continue as long as they remain alive says the

man often described as "the last Nazi hunter." Efraim Zuroff, the Ameri-

can-born director of the Israel office of the Simon Wiesenthal Center in Jerusalem, was in Ottawa during Holocaust Education Week 2007 and addressed an audience of students and community members at the University of Ottawa.

With the remaining Nazi war criminals - both the Germans and their collaborators in countries occupied by the Nazi regime - now in their 80s and 90s. Zuroff says time for them to be brought to justice is running out.

Zuroff said there are growing questions "from certain quarters" about the wisdom of continuing to go after war criminals of such advanced ages who were very young when they committed their crimes. Zuroff said he responds to such

questions with three principles that guide his work.

"The first is," he says, "is that the passage of time in no ways diminishes the guilt of the perpetrators. If someone committed murder in 1941 or 1943 or 1945 they are just as guilty today as they were when that murder was com-

"The second is that people don't deserve a medal for reaching an old age. The fact that someone who committed murder during the Holocaust reaches the age of 85 or 90 doesn't turn a killer into a righteous gentile."

Thirdly, be said, if there was some kind of age limit on prosecution, "we'd be saying that someone can get away with genocide if they're lucky enough, smart enough or rich enough to reach that age before they're caught and prosecuted for their crime. That, of course, is untbink-

There are currently 1,019 ongoing investigations around the world, he said.

Zuroff explained that,



Efraim Zuroff, the "last Nazi hunter," addresses an audience of students and community members at the University of Ottawa during Holocaust Education Week. (OJB photo: Michael Regenstreif)

investigations are taking place in the countries where the Holocaust took place, many of the others are in "countries of refuge" where the murderers moved after the Second World War, While many of the major Nazi war criminals from Germany and Austria went to South Amer-

while many of the ongoing ica, Zuroff pointed out that many thousands of collaborators from Eastern Europe tended to go to Anglo Saxon countries such as the United States, Canada, Australia and Great Britain "posing as innocent refugees running away from the Communists.

In those days, said Zuroff, it was actually easier for a Nazi war criminal to enter the United States and Canada than it was for a Holocaust survivor.

Zuroff said when an investigation reaches the stage that the criminal can be brought to justice, most countries will try them in their courts for the crimes. The United States and Canada instead onted to revoke citizenship since it

was obtained under false pretense. The criminals are then deported to the countries where their crimes took place, if extradition can be arranged with those countries, or to their countries of

While the Wiesenthal Center originally thought this method of dealing with war criminals was a "cop out," Zuroff now applauds the approach because it's much easier to prove the immigration cases than to obtain criminal convictions for crimes that took place long ago in other countries where the victims were not American or Canadian.

The United States, said Zuroff, has been doing a

good job of dealing with war criminals and collaborators in that manner.

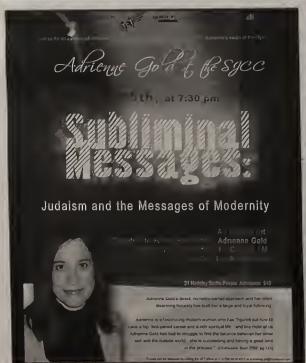
Canada, he said, adopted the American model when its 1987 law allowing for the prosecution of war criminals failed because Imre Finta, the first person prosecuted under the law, was acquitted in 1990 with a defence that he was just following orders.

This set a precedent in Canada for future cases allowing for a defence that had been internationally rejected for war crimes since the Nuremburg Trials following the Second World War.

Zuroff gave Canada a failing grade for its poor results since switching to the American approach. Canada has won just eight cases and, while three of those people have left the country voluntarily, "none have actually been deported," said Zuroff.

Zuroff blamed the lack of results in Canada on a failure of political will. He encouraged Canadians to write to Prime Minister Stephen Harper and their members of Parliament to demand renewed efforts in removing war criminals from the country.

When there are no more Nazi war criminals left to root out and prosecute something that will come to pass within the next few years - Zuroff said his work will increasingly shift to fighting Holocaust distortion and anti-Semitism





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Torah Academy promises best ever Chinese and Silent Auction

Torah Academy, preparing to hold its ninth annual Chinese and Silent Auction, says this year's event promises to be the best yet.

Admission to the event, which features a salad and dessert reception, is free. Among the many prizes are

two to Israel, electronics, tickets for the prizes they furniture, jewelry, a sterling silver menorah, family entertainment and a wide range of other items.

While billed as an auction, the Chinese Auction is really a series of raffles with a limited number of tickets trips, including airfare for .sold. Participants only buy

want to win so the odds of winning depend on how many tickets are dropped into the closed box for that

Whether you win a prize or not, everyone comes away a real winner by supporting Jewish education

The event includes a Silent Auction component as well. The Silent Auction provides opportunities to bid on such items as children's toys, beauty products and services, a hotel stay, Judaica, ski passes and

Academy, 1119 Lazard Street, on Sunday, December 2, at 7:00 pm. event, or who would like to

full page order form in this issue of the Bulletin. For more information, call 613-Those unable to attend the 274-0110 or e-mail torah ucademy(a)rogers.com.

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Upcoming community study session on the role of the deaf-mute in Jewish tradition

The Shma, one of the principal prayers in Jewish liturgy, begins by commanding us to listen, or hear. How does a Jew, who is deaf, respond to this?

The Ottawa Reconstructionist Havurah (ORH) will be hosting an adult study session on December 1, 2007 at 7 pm at the Soloway Jewish Community Centre on the role of the deaf-mute in Jewish tradition. The session will be led by the ORH's student rabbi, Darby Jared Leigh, who was born profoundly deaf.

Leigh will examine many of the issues confronting Judaism and deafness beginning with the debate within the deaf community on the two basic forms of communication: oralism and manualism and the ways in which this debate impacts a deaf person's access

of the textual presentations of deafness in Torah and in the Talmud, Historically the heresh (deaf-mute) has been grouped with the mentally handicapped or as a minor.

The study session will also be an opportunity to ask a deaf rabbinical student "anything you ever wanted to know about deafness and/or sign language, but were too afraid to ask," and is a rare opportunity to learn with someone who has wrestled with many of these issues on a personal and spiritual level.

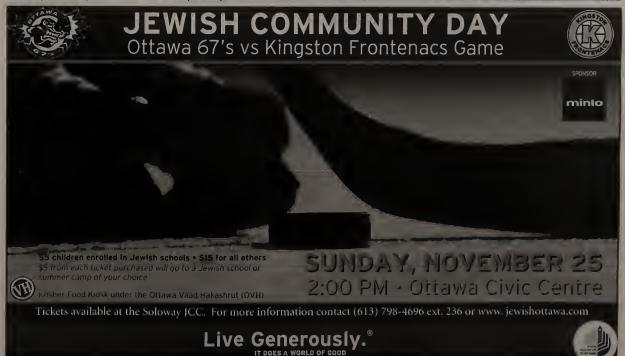
A life-long "truth seeker," Leigh was born and raised in New York City. He is now completing his rabbinic studies at the Reconstructionist Rabbincal College in Philadelphia. He will

to Judaism. He will also examine some side of the Orthodox community, to become a rabbi. His ordination is expected on June 1, 2008.

Leigh has worked in a number of fields, including case management and substance abuse counselling at the New York Society for the Deaf and as a touring actor and dancer with the Tony Award-winning National Theater of the Deaf. Also an accomplished athlete, Darby was asked to compete for the U.S. Deaf Olympic snowboarding team.

This free event is open to all from the Jewish community.

For more information, call ORH telephone line at 613-239-4988 or e-mail Heni Nadel at heninadel@ sympatico.ca. Those interested in ASL interpretation must contact ORH no later than November 26, 2007.





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Rafi Aaron wins Jewish book award for poetry

By Trudi Down

Surviving the Censor: The Unspoken Words of Osip Mandelstam (Seraphim Editions, 2006), by Ottawa-born Rafi Aaron, won the 2007 Canadian Jewish News Award in Poetry this past June in Toronto at the Helen and Stan Vine Canadian Jewish Book Awards.

Aaron spent eight years researching and writing the book, which tells the story of how Josef Stalin persecuted Mandelstam, one of the greatest Russian poets of the 20th century, beginning with Mandelstam's 1934 arrest for writing a poem that attacked the totalitarian dictator.

Aaron deftly weaves his years of research into a series of prose poems told from the points of view of four characters: Mandelstam, his wife, Nadezhda, an unnamed inmate in one of Stalin's prison camps, and a researcher studying Mandel-

of four and a half years as

Mandelstam is arrested, exiled, released and then rearrested

The journey finally leads to a transit camp near Vladivostok where Mandelstam died on December 27, 1938, at the age of 47.

The final chapter of the book deals with how Mandelstam's poems were preserved, in great part by Nadezhda who, fearing that her husband's work would be destroyed if discovered, memorized every single word he had ever written.

Aaron's first public reading of some of the poems from Surviving the Censor took place in Russia in October 2004 when he gave the Alexander Mackenzie Memorial Lecture at the University of St. Petersburg. It was a trip of a lifetime, he

"I met with the top Mandelstam scholars and was given access to places normally off limits to tourists, such as Pushkin House The book spans a period where the national literary archives are housed."



Rafi Aaron with Maureen Whyte of Seraphim Editions.

attracted much support, including a Canada Council grant, a Works in Progress grant from the Ontario Arts

Surviving the Censor Council (OAC), two Writers Reserve grants from the OAC, a scholarship to the Banff Centre for the Arts, and an invitation for Aaron

to be a visiting writer in others in the community Herzilya, Israel.

Surviving the Censor is being taught this year at the University of Toronto, which comes as no surprise to Maureen Whyte of Scraphim Editions, Aaron's publisher.

"There's a lot to be learned from this book, from both a historical perspective and from its writing style, which is unique on the Canadian literary landscape," she says.

Aaron, a native of Ottawa, is the son of Irving and Ruth Aaron and now lives in Toronto. He has read extensively in Canada, the United States and Israel.

One of his favourite readings, he says, was at Arts Alive in Ottawa in 1997 when he was here with his travelling exhibit, A Seed in the Pocket of their Blood, which explores issues of Jewish identity through poetry and photography.

"It's always special going home," he says. "The main reason is the people, the ones you grew up with and

who were involved in your life. You look out into the audience and there they are."

The location of the exhibit also held great significance for him because it was displayed at the old Jewish Community Centre.

"Just walking into that building brought back so many memories

Since 1997, the exhibit has travelled across Canada and also to the Jewish National Museum in Washington, D.C. and to Tcl Aviv part of a cultural exchange for Israel's 50th anniversary in 1998.

The exhibit has now been viewed by more than a million people. The Sound Traveller, a documentary about Aaron and the project, aired on Bravo and Book Television last year

What's next for Rafi Aaron and Surviving the Censor?

"I've turned the text into a play, and am very much looking forward to staging it," he says.

Cheder Rambam School raffle a success

The Cheder Rambam School raffle made over \$15,000

Cheder Rambam School is a community-based Jewish school located in the Nepean area that offers a combination of a comprehensive, quality, English general studies program with a Jewish cultura! and Hebrew curriculum. All studies are offered in a true ambiance of Yiddishkeit (Torah values) and Ahavat Yisrael (brotherly love) where morals, values and social understanding are paramount

You can't believe how much this raffle benefits cach and every child in our school," said raffle co-chair Abigail Rabinowitz, "The school survives through the charity and commitment of our community and the dedi-

Cantor Shneur and Tracey Bielak are the winners of a travel certificate with EL AL.

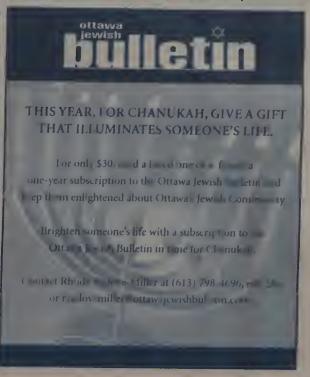
cation of our administration and staff. The devotion of our parent body and volunteers is phenomenal."

Rabbi Yehoushua Botnick, Cheder Ramban education director, thanked those buying the raffle tickets and added, "It is so refreshing to see parents volunteer their time and extend themselves beyond their comfort zone to raise money in support of Rambam's students.

The grand prize winners were the newly married Cantor Shneur Bialik who won the \$1,000 travel certificate with EL AL, and Tova Cunin, a school alumni who won the diamond tennis bracelet.

"As soon as I was informed about the raffle, I wanted to contribute right away because of all the warm memories I have of the school and its amazing education, and I wanted to be part of the future education of the Jewish children in Ottawa," said Cunin.

Fernand and Bybelezer won a bathroom



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Nominations must be submitted to the selection committee by Wednesday, January 16, 200B and should include a resume of the nominee's involvement in the Soloway JCC and the Jewish Community. Address nominations to the Soloway JCC Ben Karp Award Selection Committee or the Grossman-Klein Family Youth Award - Selection Committee, 21 Nadolny Sachs Private, Ottawa, Ontario K2A 1R9, Attention: Jodie Gencher - Executive Assistant, igencher@iccottawa.com.

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Soups inspired by Elvis Presley

Last week, I was at Home Depot shopping for a new bathroom sink and vanity for my cottage.

I find it a bit overwhelming to shop there because of the huge volume of merchandise. As I was wandering the aisles, in a slightly dazed state, I suddenly heard Elvis Presley belting out, "You ain't nothin' but a hound dog."

I whipped around and, to my amazement, saw a two-foot high Elvis Presley lamp, complete with a mini-Elvis holding a guitar and gyrating his hips to the beat of "Hound Dog." Behind the display lamp was a tall stack of boxes containing more Elvis lamps. Apparently the lamps weren't selling too well (can't imagine why!), so they put them on sale to clear them out.

My son Jamie is obsessed with Elvis. He is 14 years old and has loved Elvis ever since he heard a recording of "Hound Dog" when he was eight. He collects Elvis recordings, including obscure interviews done in the '60s, which he purchases each Sunday at Legends Record Store.

So you can imagine my excitement when I saw the lamp. had to have one for him. He was both thrilled and horrified when I showed it to him; however, he has come to love the addition of the lamp to his bedroom and will proudly take every visitor to our house upstairs to show it to them, even the refrigerator repairman.

You may be wondering why the food columnist is writing about Elvis Presley. My point is that you can't be wedded to rigid ideas when shopping. I went into Home Depot looking for a sink and vanity and came out with an Elvis lamp. Sometimes you just have to be inspired by what is new and fresh.

Too often, we go into the supermarket already knowing we'll be having green beans for dinner. Even if the broccoli looks so much fresher than the beans, we'll buy the green beans because that is what the recipe calls for. Soups are an easy and wonderful way to deviate from recipes, to just use what you have or what looks freshest that day in the market. Here are two wonderful soup recipes to try. I even think Elvis would have loved them

The first recipe is for a Cheddar Cheese Soup. My friend Jana served this soup to me. She found the recipe in the Fall 2007 issue of the LCBO's Food and Drink magazine. It calls for a malty golden lager. In my ignorance, I assumed that all beer is the same. After a visit to the LCBO, I quick-

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Made with Love

Cindy Feingold

ly discovered that nothing could be further than the truth. For the uninitiated, here is a Beer 101 Primer.

Basically, there are two types of beer: ale and lager. The main difference is in the fermenting process and, subsequently, the taste.

Ale is top-fermented in warmer temperatures of 15 to 24 degrees Celsius. This fermenting process produces secondary flavours and aromas that create a slightly fruitier, sweeter and fuller-bodied beer than lager.

Lager is bottom-fermented in cooler temperatures of seven to 12 degrees Celsius for a longer period than ale. This process inhibits the secondary flavours from occurring and results in a typically crisper, cleaner-tasting beer.

It is worth seeking out lager for this recipe. I used Walkerville Lager, which I found at the LCBO at Rideau and King Edward, but any lager would be fine.

Another friend, also named Jana, created the second recipe, for Lentil and Green Apple Soup. Amazingly, I have two friends named Jana, both from the Czech Republic. Imagine the odds of that. This is a hearty, stick-to-your-ribs soup. The recipe makes a huge pot, but any leftovers freeze beautifully.

Cheddar Cheese Soup

Serves 4

2 tablespoons unsalted butter

I large onion, finely diced

1 teaspoon chopped fresh thyme

(or 1/4 teaspoon dried thyme)

1 teaspoon fresh chopped marjoram

(or 1/4 teaspoon dried marjoram)

1/4 cup all purpose flour

3/4 cup malty golden lager (such as Walkerville Lager)

4 cups vegetable stock

1/2 pound aged yellow cheddar, grated

1/2 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce

1/4 teaspoon dried mustard powder

salt and freshly ground pepper

extra grated cheese for garnish

Put butter into a heavy-bottom pot over a medium heat and heat until warm. Add onions, thyme and marjoram and cook for 4 minutes, until translucent. Add flour and stir constantly until a golden brown roux (paste) begins to form.

Add the beer in thirds, waiting until each addition is fully incorporated before adding the next. By the end, there should be a very loose paste.

Gradually add stock, stirring constantly until fully incorporated. Simmer for 2 minutes or until the desired thickness is reached.

Add grated cheese, Worcestershire sauce and dried mustard powder and stir to incorporate. Add salt and

Serve topped with a sprinkling of grated cheese.



Unexpected Elvis lamp purchase spurs thoughts of

Jana's Lentil and Green Apple Soup

Serves 8

3 tablespoons vegetable oil

3 medium sized onions, finely diced

3 large celery stalks, diced into 1/2 inch pieces

l finely chopped jalapeño pepper, seeds discarded

4 peeled and chopped granny smith apples

teaspoon salt (to taste)

1 teaspoon of curry powder

1/2 teaspoon of ground cumin

2 cups green dry lentils, rinsed 8 cups vegetable stock

sour cream chopped parsley

In a large pot, heat oil. Sauté onions over medium heat for about 5 minutes. Add celery and jalapeño pepper and continue cooking for another 2-3 minutes.

Add chopped apples, salt, cumin and curry powder and stir to combine. Cook for about 1-2 minutes more. Stir in lentils and add stock. Bring to a boil.

Turn heat down to low. Cover pot and simmer for about 30-40 minutes until lentils are tender.

Purée soup in blender, or in pot using a hand-immersion blender. Serve with a spoonful of sour cream and a sprinkling of freshly chopped parsley.

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Schwartz scores with story of sweatshops and kids' hockey

By Ellen Schwartz Orca Book Publishers 2006 140 pages. Ages 8 - 10

I don't know if there are any Jewish-content Kid Lit books written in French that describe the Montreal garment factories - better known as sweatshops - of the early-1890s. But I can say, with certainty, that Yossi's Goal is the only historical novel of that sort to come my way since I've been writing this column. Books like that, both fiction and non-fiction, are usually set in New York or, occasionally,

While the Montreal setting alone makes Yossi's Goal worthy of a review, there are other reasons to bring it to the

Among them is the book's presentation as a simply told melodrama. That means its emphasis is less on character development and more on emotions, plot and action.

Written in short, straight-to-the-point, terse and tense chapters, the story is told from an outside perspective with Yossi, the book's spunky young hero, central to both its macro and micro themes.

The macro theme is Jewish immigrant poverty.

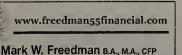
Yossi, Papa, Mama and older sister, Miriam, are relative newcomers, having fled pogroms in Russia only six months before the start of the book. For them, Montreal, Canada is not turning out to be the land of opportunity they had

True, they are free to live as Jews. But the degree of poverty they are living in now far exceeds what they were used to back in the shtetl.

To make matters worse, their oppressors are other Jews, the sweatshop owners and their families. Crowded tenements, illness, working in horrible conditions for little pay and feeling ashamed are the order of the day.

Yossi has two jobs, selling newspapers on street corners and carrying bundles for Steiner's Garment Works, the sweatshop employing Papa and Miriam's fiancé, Daniel, on site and sending piecework bundles home to Mama, Miriam and Daniel's mother.

The potential for labour unrest is clearly in the air and plays a role in the story.



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Kid Lit

Deanna Silverman

Moreover, because Yossi is Jewish, he's barred from attending public schools based on the Catholic and Protes-

In the 1890s, education for Jewish children consisted of rich Jewish families sending their kids to private Jewish schools and poor families paying a rebbe a small fee to teach their children. Except for a few English and French words picked up on the street. Yiddish is still Yossi's main language.

As to the micro theme, it's what most boys hope for as the weather gets colder: owning a pair of skates and playing hockey.

For Yossi, that isn't as simple as it sounds. He accidentally comes upon some Frenchies (French boys) playing hockey in a lane on ice they made themselves. Most of the boys aren't hostile so Yossi returns again and again to watch and learn this strange game.

Longing to join the game, Yossi starts saving his pennies for a pair of skates. That's where the macro and micro themes intersect. As they do, readers learn something about French-Canadian Catholic anti-Semitism, French-Canadian poverty and how diverse people can join forces against shared injustices of large and small kinds even if they don't speak the same language.

Yossi's Goal, then, is multi-facetted. On one hand, it's the prototypical "he shoots, he scores" type story. On the other hand, it's one small step along the path to a better life for Montreal's impoverished sweatshop workers and their families.

Either way, it's a fast-paced, sensitive look into Canadian Jewish history with the odd bit of humour, sufficient excitement and just a little time compaction (mentioned in the author's note at the end). A glossary is included to help with the Yiddish words

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- · TeleShalom is sceking volunteers to place daily calls to seniors. Something you can do from the comfort of your own home and will only take a little time. If you are able to help,
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- · ESL and homework club volunteers needed to assist new Canadians with their English and to help out with the homework club at the Alta Vista library. If you are interested,
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Art, aging and aspirations: a novel of desires

There is so much good, new fiction being published these days, it's hard to know what to read first. It can be hit and miss, but this book - while not new - is a definite hit.

> Starting Out in the Evening By Brian Morton Harcourt/Raincoast Books Softcover, 1998

I think it matters not how old you are - there will always be books that have particular meaning for you, books that seem to come along just when you need them. And so it is for

Heather is a grad student who wants to write her thesis on the author who changed her life. That author is Leonard Schiller, now an elderly man whose books are out of print. She tracks Schiller down with the single-mindedness of a stalker, moves to his city and tries to win him over. Thus begins an unusual relationship between the 24-year-old and the septuagenarian, and a story that captivates with its tendemess and grace. Starting Out in the Evening is about three very different souls and the interplay between them that contributes to this unusual, but beautifully wrought, story about love and life

Morton's characters are interesting and complicated, and they're skilfully presented as he moves from voice to voice, and perspective to perspective, in Rashomon-like style.

There's Heather. At the beginning of the book she comes off as a smug, rather unlikable and manipulative young woman whose only desire is to get whatever it is she wants at all costs. What she wants is to write a thesis that might turn into a book that might catapult her to success. And Schiller is her ticket. Heather's Machiavellian nature has always brought her success, but by the end of the book, she undergoes a kind of sea change because of her interactions with the author she first venerates and then pities.

There's the widowed old Schiller. He had short-lived success with his first two books, written many years ago, but he has not been a prolific author. At 70, he is working on what he knows will be his last book. Heather's interest in him sparks his own introspection into his literary career, such as it's been.

Then there's Ariel, Schiller's unhappy daughter. At 40, Ariel is a childless, failed dancer-turned-aerobics-instructor who sees her father as an anachronism: "He hadn't gotten the news that the war was over: that high culture, which he had

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cherished, fought for, given his life for, had been crushed."

Morton's book is melancholic, especially when he is writing in Schiller's voice. The author's skill lies in how he handles the many themes threading through this novel with humour, sensitivity and insight.



Book Beat

Kinneret Globerman

Here are some samples.

On art and artistic legacy and on what constitutes a successful life: Schiller, visiting an ailing friend in the hospital, can only think about the fact that a young grad student wants to write about him and his work, "and he felt drunk with the thought that he might have won the race with his old friend after all. His friend was dying fifty feet away, but he felt like dancing."

On aging and on glory belonging to the young: "You're only ripe for a moment. Life made more sense in the Middle Ages, when no one lived past forty.'

On the meaning of life: Ariel considers that the 'moments of beauty, the moments when you feel blessed, are only moments; but memory and imagination ... can string them together like the delicate glories on the necklace her father had given her. Everything else passes away; that which you love remains. She had to believe this, even if she wasn't sure it was true."

On art and recognition: Schiller muses that he "had been writing devotedly for twenty years ... He hadn't received much in return. Not that the world was under any obligation to appreciate the gifts he'd tried to give - but the question remained: if what you offer the world isn't needed, then why continue to bring it your offerings?"

On the nature of the artist: "... he found that he was no longer so troubled by the question of whether he was or ever would be a 'successful writer.' It was beside the point. He was a writer ... When he was at his writing table, the labor was its own reward."

Starting Out in the Evening has been made into a movie that will be released this month. It received the Academy Award in Literature from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, the Koret Jewish Book Award for Fiction, and the Guggenheim Foundation Award. It was also a finalist for the PEN/Faulkner Award

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JACK AND HONEY MONSON ENDOWMENT FUND Birthday wishes to:

Max Zelikovitz by Honey and Jack Baylin; and by Ann and David Schlesinger.

PEARL AND DAVID MOSKOVIC ENDOWMENT FUND

In observance of the Yahrzeif of:

Freda Feinstein, a dear mother and grandmother by Pearl and David Moskovic and family.

JEAN AND MAX NAEMARK ENDOWMENT FUND Birthday wishes to:

Jean Naemark on her special birthday by Bea

OTTAWA JEWISH COMMUNITY ENDOWMENT FUND

Anniversary wishes to: Jane and Martin Gordon on their 20th wedding anniversary by Ron and Debbie Weiss. In appreciation to:

Jennifer Kardash for being Chair of the Choices

evenI by Debbie Weiss.

Thank you to: Laila Wex for her participation in the Choices event

Lenora Zellkovitz for per participation in the Choices event by Debbie Weiss.

Stephen Greenberg receiving the Association of Fundraising Professionals Outstanding Volunteer of the Year award by Ron and Debbie Weiss.

NORMAN AND EVELYN POTECHIN **ENDOWMENT FUND** Mazai Toy to:

Evelyn and Norman Potechin on the birth of their great-grandchild by Libby and Stan Katz.

MOE AND SARAH RESNICK ENDOWMENT FUND In memory ot:

Sam Brozovsky by Sam and Roberta Goldmaker; and by Penny, Gordie, Zac and Steven Resnick. Mazal Toy to:

Glenda and David Moss on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter Jordana by Penny, Gordie, Zac and Steven

Marg and Lou Goldmaker on the Bat Mitzvah of their granddaughter by Penny, Gordie, Zac and Steven

FLORENCE AND GDALYAH ROSENFELD ENDOWMENT FUND

Birthday wishes to: Monique Dupré by Florence and Gdalyah

SAMUEL AND RUTH ROTHMAN MEMORIAL FUND

Wayne Feller by Sheldon and Corinne Taylor. Reva Yumansky by Corinne and Sheldon Taylor.

Danny Cantor by Corinne and Sheldon Taylor.

RICKIE AND MARTIN SASLOVE FAMILY FUND

Jozef and Vera Straus on the birth of their grand daughter by Rhoda and Jeffrey Miller.

CLARE AND MAURICE SCHWARTZ FUND

Birthday wishes to: Elizabeth Schwartz on her 60th birthday by Julia Schwartz and Gilbert Bismuth.

LAYA AND SOL SHABINSKY **ENDOWMENT FUND**

Anniversary wishes to:

Sol and Laya Shabinsky by Marilyn and Will Newman.

Laya and Sol Shabinsky on the Bar Mitzvah of fhelr grandson Michael Shabinsky by Dorothy Nadolny.

SHEKEL HAKODESH ENDOWMENT FUND In memory of:

Sam Brozovsky by Steve and Laurie Gordon.

SOL AND ZELAINE SHINDER ENDOWMENT FUND Birthday wishes to:

Arnell Goldberg on his special birthday by Sol and Zelaine Shinder.

Mollie Tradburks by Sol and Zelaine Shinder

DR. ROBERT NORMAN SHORHET MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of: Norman Shoihet by Lillian Shoihet.

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In memory of:

Sam Brozovsky by Jack, Sarah and David

Rosa Iny by Sarah and Jack Silverstein. Safe travels for

Allison Cherney by Jack and Sarah Silverstein. Mazal Tov to:

Anne and Irv Huss on the birth of their granddaughler Lauren Sophie Huss by Sarah, Jack and David Silverstein.

LAURA AND GORDON SPERGEL ENDOWMENT FUND

Speedy recovery to: Lou Segal by Marla, Mark, Andrew, Samantha and Evan Spergel

DORIS AND RICHARD STERN FAMILY FUND

Rosa Iny by Doris and Richard Stern.

JAY B. TALLER MEMORIAL FUND

Beth Roodman's father by Morton and Sally Taller. Sam Brozovsky by Morton and Sally Taller.

RUTH TALLER MEMORIAL FUND

in memory of: Rosa Iny by Mendy Taller. Srul Mussman by Mendy Taller. R'luah Sh'lemah to: Danny Cantor by Mendy Taller.

THE TARANTOUR FAMILY FUND

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Sonia Tarantour Pearl and Teena Goldberg.

CHARLES AND RAE TAVEL MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of:

Calvert Kogan by John and Sunny Tayel: and by Robyn Tavel and Juan Alzate.

ALLAN TAYLOR ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of:

Sam Brozovsky by Allan Taylor

BRENT AND RISA TAYLOR ENDOWMENT FUND

in memory of:

Sam Brozovsky by Risa, Brent and Shira Taylor.

TENNENHOUSE FAMILY ENDOWMENT FUND

Birthday wishes to:

Arnold Tennenhouse on his special birthday by Norma and Yudie Schacter and family.

STEPHEN AND GAIL VICTOR ENDOWMENT FUND Speedy recovery to:

Albert Spal by Gail and Stephen Victor and family Danny Cantor by Sandy Marchello.

fn memory of:

Wayne Feller by Sandy Marchello. Rosa Iny by Gail and Stephen Victor, Jodie and Jordana. Andrea, Mike and Daliah.

RUTH AND JOSEPH VINER ENDOWMENT FUND fn memory of: Rosa Iny by Ruth and Joe Viner,

Continued on page 26



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MIRIAM AND LOUIS WEINER ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory ot:
Rosa Iny by Miriam and Louis Weiner; and by Carol

MILDRED AND PERCY WEINSTEIN **ENDOWMENT FUND** Mazal Toy to:

Ruth and Joe Viner on becoming great-grandnarents by Millie Weinstein.

Birthday wishes to: Lyon Sachs on his special birthday by Millie

In memory ot:

Rosa Iny by Millie Weinsteln.

SAM AND HELENE ZARET MEMORIAL FUND In memory ot:

Rosa Iny by Neil Zaret.

NATHAN, DAVID AND MAX ZELIKOVITZ FAMILIES FUND

Birthday wishes to:

Max Zelikovitz by Ken Kavanat.

In honour ot:

Gale Kardish chanting the Haftorah at Beth Shalom for her grandfather's birthday by Ken Kavanat.

ZIPES KARANOFSKY FAMILY ENDOWMENT FUND

Birthday wishes to: Arthur Rabinovitch on his special birthday by Rick and Helen Zipes.

R'luah Sh'lemah to:

Jean Machlovitch by Rick and Helen Zipes, Erin, Michael and Kyle.

Int Beck by the Zipes family.

Marilyn Benoit by Rick and Helen Zipes.

THE SAUL AND EDNA GOLDFARB B'NAI MITZVAH PROGRAM RYAN GOLDBERG B'NAI MITZVAH FUND Mazal Toy to:

Norman and Evelyn Potechin on the birth of their great-grandson by Ernie, Reva, Robyn and Ryan

Ena and Moshe Greengarten on the birth of their grandson by Ernie, Reva, Robyn and Ryan Goldberg.
Toby and Joel Yan on the birth of their twin grand-

daughters by Ernie, Reva, Robyn and Ryan Goldberg. In memory of:

Sam Brozovsky by Mary and Len Potechin. Rosa Iny by Mary and Len Potechin.

STACEY SAMANTHA KATZ R'NAI MITZVAH FUND Mazal Toy Io:

Liz and Arnie Vered on their daughter Tory's Bat Mitzvah and their son Michael's Bar Mitzvah by Joany

and Andy Katz and family.

Brian and Sheryl Altshuller on their son Daniel's Bar Mitzvah by Joany and Andy Katz and family.

Mickey Abramovitch by Joany and Andy Kalz and

SAMUEL JOSEPH LESH B'NA! MITZVAH FUND

In memory of: Sam Brozovsky by Lis Lesh and family.

LEAH KOVACS SCHWEITZER B'NAI MITZVAH FUND Mazal Tov to:

Faigy and Zac Muroff on the birth of their grandson by Kathi Kovacs, Irwin Schweitzer and Leah.

Contributions may be made online at www.ojcl.ca or by phoning Bev Glube at 613-798-4696 extension 274, Monday to Friday. We have votce mall. Our e-mail address is bgtube@jewishottawa.com. Attractive cards are sent to convey

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What happened to the Maccabees?

The story of Chanukah combines two major themes. One is the Jewish resistance to Syrian Greek oppression, epitomized by the rebellion led by the Maccabees, the Hasmonean priestly family, which began at Modin in 167 BCE and lasted about 30 years.

The first major victory occurred in 164 BCE when the Maccabean army captured Jerusalem. The Maccabees restored the purity of the Temple and replaced the ritual implements that had been descrated by the Syrians. We celebrate the miracle of the sole container of olive oil that remained pure, which should have provided only enough oil to light the candclabra for one day but, instead, lasted eight. This is the origin of the second, and predominant, theme of our Chanukah celebrations.

The rabbis and Chanukah

Josephus, the Jewish historian of the wars against the Romans, wrote that in his day the popular name for the holiday was Lights. The name, Chanukah, meaning rededication of the Temple, only came a few centuries later

The emphasis shifted from the original celebrations decreed by Judah Maccabee, and Chanukah emerged as a religious boliday, added to the calendar by the early Talmudic rabbis. Rabbi Ismar Schorsch, chancellor emeritus of the Jewish Theological Seminary, explains many of the reasons for this shift.

To begin with, there was discomfort with the idea that an armed political victory was being celebrated. This is seen in the choice of a portion from Zachariah as the Haftorah for Shabbat Chanukah, which emphasizes that the completion of the Temple is uniquely the result of divine intervention in Israel's destiny.

In the main, the Hasmonean dynasty used its power in ways

that drew veiled criticism from the rabbis, even while they still ruled. The unification of political and religious authority, which the Hasmoneans justified as being a temporary measure, was seen as a transgression that made the High Priesthood the object of nenotism and political intrigue

Rabbi James Ponet emphasizes another reason why the rabbis downplayed the Maccabean wars. The Maccabees were not indifferent to the many Jewish followers of Greek paganism and were ruthless in trying to eliminate them. The Maccabean wars were associated with painful memories of fratricidal slaughter, which had recently been repeated in the fighting among the Jewish factions who were bitterly divided on how to deal with the Romans.

Thus the rabbis, in the aftermath of the disastrous war against the ruthless Roman Empire, the destruction of the Temple and the slaughters that occurred then, and following later rebellions, emphasized Jewish survival. This was at the core of the Jewish behavioural ethic designed to preserve Judaism and the Jewish people in the Diaspora era.

The Maccabee revival

Even before Theodore Herzl evoked the memory of the Maccabees as a role model for the new era of post-Diaspora Jews, 19th century pioneers in Eretz Yisroel were reviving the Maccabean heritage in their motivational ideology and festivities.

According to Yadin Rudkin, they "began to view [Cbanukah] as a commemoration of the regained independence of the Jewish people ... [during] the Second Jewish Commonwealth. Pride in their valiant predecessors led the early-20th century founders of the first Jewish sports club in the Land of Israel to name their organization Maccabi."

In the 1930s, Zev Vilnay began leading annual Chanukah



Global Shteti The Jewish Internet

Saul Silverman

hikes to alleged Maccabee graves near Lod. These hikes became a youth movement tradition. For the past century, the Maccabee tradition has been used as a motivator in the struggle for national liberation and Israeli self-defence.

The Maccabees were also used by Rav Yeshayahu Shapira and other religious Zionists to justify making common cause with secularists in building the land of Israel. But they were also invoked by such groups as Brit Hashmonaim (Covenant of the Hasmoneans) to promote militant messianic nationalism by force of arms.

The almost 2,000-year argument between rabbinical caution and Maccabean daring has not been settled; and is unlikely to be settled any time soon. It's difficult to know what is in the best interest of the Jewish people. But we cannot shrug off making the effort of examining our history for the lessons it

Chanukah (Jewish Agency): http://tinyurl.com/2fzkb7 Maccabees: http://tinyurl.com/yuekv9 Rabbis vs. Hasmoneans: http://tinyurl.com/yuysmn Yadin Rudkin: http://tinyurl.com/28vsfl

Maccabees and religious Zionism: http://tinyurl.com/yrulpy

Neo-Maccabean militancy: http://tinyurl.com/26ucqt

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How I became bipolar

It all started in nursery school when my favourite activi-

I would sit on that thing and go up and down, up and down. You wouldn't believe how many times I went up and down. Even when there was no one on the other side, I would still sit there, using my legs to push off, although the trip down seemed a lot faster. I thus learned the need for cooperation. In other words, the need to convince other kids to do what I wanted to do.

I was very kind. I would do them favours. They noticed, however, that I would go like crazy once they were sitting on the other end. I would sit there just chanting, "teeeeter-totttter."

Eventually, I would let them off if they complained to the child care assistant, who in this case, was a nur.

Since those days, I have been diagnosed as having an irrational fear of penguins. But you don't want to hear about all my troubles.

My mother noticed I was saying this "teeter-totter" thing under my breath when we walked home and tried to use her arm like a spring.

Being a kind and loving mother, she asked the doctor about my ongoing obsession. He suggested she get me involved in other playground activities.

That's when I discovered the slide. You got to climb up ropes and stairs, sometimes with great difficulty, and then you got to experience a wonderful slide down. Sort of the totter without the teeter.

This seemed good to me.

I loved that slide down, although it was always sadden-

Ottawa Jewish telephone directory better than a gossip column

One of the holiest books for a Jew living in Ottawa is clearly the Ottawa Jewish Telephone Directory.

For years, this white-coiled book has served Jews throughout our community.

It's more valuable than just a tool for yentas or a way to prank-cal! Hebrew school teachers back in the day! (We can't believe they remain listed!)

This book is more than just a listing of all of Ottawa's Cohen families (which is enough to run a paper mill dry).

After doing our research, we have some startling results. The 5767 directory bolds an amazing 50 Greenberg households (congrast), while the Cohens are in second place with 37 (honourable mentions).

Other families getting closer include Smith and Goldberg tied at 20 (you both fought the good fight), Katz at 19, Levine, Miller and Silverman with 17 each (fine Jewish names, let's have some more grandchildren), Fine and Klein in at 16, Goldstein with 14 and Dover is also at 14, if you include Dover-Cohen. However, the judges have re-considered and any hyphenated names are disqualified!

Coming in at 12 is shared among Polowin, Segal and Steinberg (not bad, but not exactly the Cohens). In at 11 are Kronick and Friedman. Although, if you counted the Freedmans too, they would be 20 in total. Shlepping into last place with 10 are Finkelstein, Shore, Torontow and Kardish.

Congrats to all the winners!

Extra points are received if Florida numbers are in-

We remember as kids gathering in the family room with our respective parents playing "Are they Jewish?"

We would say an Ottawa family surname and then look to the book for the answer! It was an early version of Deal or No Deal; Jew or no Jew!

Paul has a special piace in his heart for the Jewish directory. His first real crush was in Grade 10. He remembers excitedly going to the directory to find a certain special girl's name. He would then sit nervously for days looking at the name and number of this girl's parents. He doodled in the many spaces in the book for "hotes." (For conversation's sake, let's just call her Dahlia Pankowski ...we're just saying seath.

The Jewish directory helped Paul call up his crush and speak to her.

We're not implying Paul and Dahlia went out or anything, but the book helped connect them! Dahlia, please don't sue Paul for defamation of character. But if you do, we recommend Lawrence Pascoc, also found in the Jewish directory.

The Jewish directory also plays a service as an unofficial obituary. When the new book comes out, see who's not listed anymore.





Have a Knish

Paul Telner Byron Pascoe

People should be buried with the Jewish directory. You never know who you might need to call if there's an after-

Everything's in this book! Why does that nice couple now have two separate listings this year? Do we smell a divorce in the community!? The Jewish directory is like a gossip newspaper! It's literally THE STAR!

One of the things our younger readers will remember is the listings that included a private line for the kids along with the one for their folks. We know many young Jews know what we're talking about: the spoiled kids who not only got their own phone line, but an actual listing separately and under their parents! These were the kids we idolized as this was every kid's dream!

When Moses died, if the family had the Jewish directory, funeral arrangements and catering all could have been figured out with one handy book. The original 'Google.'

The Jewish directory is an awesome resource and, for better or worse, it's been with us through everything and we hope it continues. So please, advertise!

Speaking of advertising, there are some great food establishments (that, according to our new contract, we aren't legally allowed to mention). They are on pages 13, 207 and, our personal favourite, page 265.

Ottawa's Jewish community is small, but is made even smaller with the directory. Within this little book are hundreds of names that sit calmly above and across from each other. With each name is an amazing story. Some people hate each other, some people love each other, some people still owe others money for some dinner back in 1987 that they will never let rest.

Let's all be thankful we have one consistent book that connects all of us whether we like it or not.

When Paul read Byron's listing in the directory, it was discovered he had a separate listing from his folks; that is, he had his own phone line all along.

You think you know a friend after all these years. Paul and Byron are currently not talking, again.

Have a knish!



Humour me, please

Rubin Friedman

ing to reach the bottom and realize you had to climb back

My mother noticed my tendency to climb up the stairs at our house and slide all the way down to the bottom on my bottom. As our stairs were made of wood, this led inevitably to a splinter and my realization that there was no gain without pain. If I wanted the sensation of whooshing down the stairs, I had to be prepared for a bit of a sting in the tush.

Being a child genius, I discovered the uses of cardboard boxes when you flattened them. They could be used like toboggans for slaloming down stairways. I started to go down headfirst, which led to my undoing and the banning of sliding all together. I ended up with about six stitches in my chin when I slid off the cardboard just before the final step. Ouch!

The doctor suggested I get interested in other activities at the nursery school. I headed straight for the swing set.

This was sliding down, but without the climbing up. Somebody pushed you! You just had to keep your seat and you could get not only the sensation of falling forward, but also the bigger thrill of falling backward once you reached the limit of your forward swing.

Forward up and backward down and hackward up and forward down. This was teeter-totter, but in four dimensions. Could anything be more fun than this!

Apparently, my child's brain figured out how this could be more fun. This was to wait until you were at the top of the forward swing and use that as a launch to send you flying into a pile of leaves. Well, I was aiming for the leaves. Which is how I broke my arm.

What can I say? If they hadn't got me used to going up and down so many ways as a child, I would be a calm and placid person today.

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For more information call Rhoda Saslove-Miller 613-798-4696, ext. 256

WHAT'S GOING ON

November 19 to December 2, 2007

For a detailed listing visit www.jewishottawa.org





CANDLELIGHTING BEFORE

Nov 16 # 4:14 pm Nov 23 🌣 4:08 pm Nov 30 🌣 4:04 pm Dec 7 🌣 4:02 pm Dec 14 0 4:02 pm Dec 21 🌣 4:04 pm Dec 28 n 4:09 pm Jan 4 🌣 4:15 pm Jan 11 4 4:23 pm

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 20

Jewish Family Services and Hillel Lodge, "Colour Meets Life," a showcase of Jewish artistry, featuring Lify Tobin and Ed Shapiro, Hillel Lodge, 10 Nadolny Sachs Private, 10:30 am. (November 20-21).

The Vered Israel Cultural and Educational Program and the Jerusalem Foundation, "Israel @ 60 - Understanding through Films," 6:00 pm.

Israeli Folkdancing, Hillel Academy, 31 Nadolny Sachs Private, 6:30 pm.

Evening of solidarity with families of three Israeli soldiers is known as the defending Israel, 7:30 pm.

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 21 ewish Family Service

Jewish Family Services, Let's Do Lunch, a klezmer show in voice and fiddle with Rena Herman, Agudath Israel Congregation, 1400 Coldrey Avenue, noon.

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 25

JET, "Woman's Day for Body and Soul," guest speaker former Canada AM style commentator Adrienne Gold speaking about beauty, self-esteem and the media, 26 Castlefrank Road, Kanata, 11:00 am.

Jewish Federation of Ottawa and Minto Development Inc., "Jewish Community Day," Ottawa 67's versus Kingston Frontenacs hockey game, Ottawa Civic Centre,

JET, Soloway Jewish Community Centre and Na'amat present Adrienne Gold, "Subliminal Messages: Judaism and the Messages of Modernity," 7:30 pm.

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 27

tsraeli Folkdancing, Hillel Academy, 31 Nadolny Sachs Private, 6:30 pm.

Soloway Jewish Community Centre Adult Department, lecture with Professor Adele Reinhartz, "The Jewish Jesus: The View From Hollywood," 7:30 pm.

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 28

Soloway Jewish Community Centre Adult Department and Zelikovitz Jewish Studies Centre presents guest speaker Katherine Lagrandeur, "Elie Wiesel: Archives & Mourning," 7:30 pm.

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 29

College of Jewish Studies and The Soloway Jewish Community Centre, Lunch and Learn. noon.

SATURDAY DECEMBER 1

Soloway Jewish Community Centre and Reconstructionist Havurah study session, 7:00 pm.

> SUNDAY DECEMBER 2 Congregation Beth Shalom

West celebrates name change to Congregation Beit Tikvah, 15 Chartwell Avenue, 2:00 pm.

SUNDAY DECEMBER 2

Torah Academy, "Oceans," Chinese and Silent Auction event, Torah Academy, 119 Lazard Street, 7:00 pm.

COMING SOON

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 4
Young Israel farewell cocktail party
for Rabbi Mordecal Berger,
627 Kirkwood Avenue, 7:00 pm.



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9 Agudath Israei Congregation, "Hanukkah Carnival," 1400 Coidrey Avenue, 1:00 pm. Tickets: 613-226-4363 or greenje@magma.ca Tickets: 613-798-8818

Unless otherwise noted, activities take place at The Joseph and Rose Ages Family Building, 21 Nadolny Sachs Private.

This information is taken from the community calendar maintained by the Jewish Community Campus of Cittawa Inc. Organizations which would like their events to be listed, no matter where they are to be held, should make sure they are recorded by Brenda Schafer, calendar coordinator at 798-9818 ext. 265. We have voice mail. Accurate details must be provided and all events must be open to the Jewish public. You may fax to 798-9839 or email to bschafer@locottawa.com.



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Condolences

Condolences are extended to the families of:

Freda Appel Pauline Benjamin Lillian Gertsman Lena Levine

Gertrude (Dolly) Shaffran, Montreal (mother of Rona Shaffran) Bessie (Beatrice) Silverman

Susan Woods Montreal (sister of Carole Alexander, Eric Levin and Bryna Cohen)

May their memory be a blessing always.

The CONDOLENCE COLUMN is offered as a public service to the community. There is no charge.

For a listing in this column, please call Bev Glube, 613-798-4696, ext. 274.

Voice mail is available.

BULLETIN DEADLINES

2008

January 2 for January 21
January 16 for February 4
January 30 for February 18
February 20 for March 10
March 5 for March 24
March 19 for April 7
April 2 for April 21
April 16 for May 5
April 30 for May 19

MAY 28 FOR JUNE 16
* Community-wide Issue (all dates subject to change)